

Listing of Claims

1. -45. (Canceled)

46. (Currently Amended) A method of identifying a compound that decreases binding of an HIV envelope protein to a host-human Rab9 protein-and decreases HIV infection, comprising:
contacting the host protein-a human Rab9 protein with the HIV envelope protein and a test compound to allow interaction between the human Rab9 protein and the HIV envelope protein, wherein the host protein is encoded by a human Rab9 target sequence; and
determining whether binding of the HIV envelope protein to the host-human Rab9 protein is decreased in the presence of the test compound, the decrease in binding being an indication that the test compound decreases the binding of the HIV envelope-protein to the host human Rab9 protein, and decreases HIV infection.

47. – 71. (Canceled)

72. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 46, wherein the method comprises expressing the host-human Rab9 protein in a cell, and contacting the host-human Rab9 protein with the HIV envelope protein and a test compound comprises exposing the cell to the HIV envelope protein and the test compound.

73. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 46, wherein the host-human Rab9 protein or the HIV envelope protein comprises a label, and determining whether binding is decreased comprises detecting an amount of label present.

74. – 76. (Canceled)